

旅游·商贸专业英语

ENGLISH READERS IN TOURISM

AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

航空地勤英語

AIR TRAVEL IN ENGLISH

(GROUND SERVICE)



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编者的话

为了适应旅游和商贸发展的需要,给目前从事或即将从事涉外工作者提供一个迅速提高业务素质,特别是提高英语运用能力的途径,我们特意编写了这套《旅游·商贸专业英语》。

该丛书共分10册:《旅游英语实践》、《旅游英语提高》、《酒店服务英语》、《餐饮服务英语》、《航空空勤英语》、《航空地勤英语》、《国际商贸英语》、《国际金融英语》、《国际财会英语》、《国际银行英语》。

各册内容简明扼要,主题突出,文体规范,语言生动。它不但包括了旅游、商贸业务的主要环节,还涉及了旅游、商贸和涉外服务日常业务活动各个方面,比较全面地收入了各专业的词汇和句型,每单元后均附有练习,以便于教学或自我测试,书后附有专业术语的英汉对译表,有助于读者正确把握词语的概念含义。

该丛书编排合理,难易适中,实用性强,易学易记。它不但符合语言学习规律,也符合当今旅游、商贸业务实际。读者研读后,既能学习旅游、商贸业务,也可学到现代流行的旅游、商贸英语。

该丛书既可作为旅游、商贸院校学生的英语阅读教材,亦可供从事旅游、商贸和涉外服务者自学使用。

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UNIT ONE

AIRLINE SERVICES

The airlines of the world offer many varieties of services in many different kinds of aircraft. Transcontinental and transoceanic flights are made in giant jet planes, some of which can carry several hundred passengers on each flight. Smaller jets are commonly used on the shorter, more heavily traveled routes between major centers of population——Paris - London, for example, or New York - Chicago. In contrast to the jets are propeller airplanes, as they are now generally called, which are slower and smaller than the jets. Many different kinds of propeller planes fly on short routes into small airports that cannot handle the big planes. The DC - 3 (or the Dakota, as the British call it), one of the first successful commercial airplanes, is still used in many parts of the world.

There are several ways in which airline service

can be divided into categories. One distinction is between trunk lines and feeder lines. Trunk lines are those which operate between major population centers. New York to San Juan, Puerto Rico, is an example of a trunk route. Feeder lines, which are sometimes called *local lines*, connect smaller cities and towns with each other or with the major centers and the major airports. A passenger traveling from Binghamton, New York, to Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, would probably take a flight on a feeder airline from Binghamton to New York City. There he would change to a major airline which would take him on to San Juan. At San Juan he would transfer to another feeder airline to travel on to Mayagüez.

In the last few years, there has been a rapid development of feeder airlines in the United States and in many other countries. Some smaller cities have no other means of public passenger transportation. In countries where there is a large frontier, such as Canada or Brazil, air service may provide access to some areas even before they are reached by roads. Similarly, in countries with rugged terrain, such as Colombia, airplanes can provide more effective transportation between regions than highways or

tional vocabulary and other new words, as well as the structural patterns that are used with them. A great deal of successful language learning comes from practice and experiences. In offering these books, it is hoped that the student's interest in his chosen field will increase his ability to communicate more effectively in English.

flights on the same routes. We will discuss charter flights in more detail in Unit Eight.

Scheduled airlines often provide non-scheduled services — particularly charter flights — during the tourist season. Occasionally, they also provide *extra sections* of scheduled flights at times when travel over a particular route is especially heavy — during a holiday weekend, for example. An extra section of course depends on the availability of aircraft.

On the flight itself, there is usually a distinction between *first class* and *economy*, which was formerly known as *tourist class*. The first class passenger has more space and receives more in-flight service. In most modern jets, the seating plan in first class is usually two seats on each side of the aisle; in economy there are usually three seats side by side. The first class seats are usually farther apart so that the passenger has more room for his legs. To the passenger, the chief difference between first class and economy may well be the cost — first-class fares are much higher than economy fares.

Many airlines offer one-service flights, especially on short, heavily-traveled routes. On a few

routes, notably New York - Washington, New York - Boston, and Los Angeles - San Francisco, there are shuttle flights. The passenger does not have to make a reservation in advance, and he pays for his ticket either at the departure gate or on the flight itself.

A final distinction is between *passenger* and *freight (or cargo)* service. In the early days of the airlines, freight was usually carried in the baggage compartment of the plane. In some cases, freight was even carried in the passenger compartment. In this event, the reclining seats were taken out, the passengers sat in "bucket seats" along the sides of the plane, and the freight was strapped down in the middle of the compartment. Nowadays, small shipments may still be carried in the baggage compartment, but there are also special planes which provide both scheduled and non-scheduled air freight service. Some of these planes are converted from passenger aircraft; others are specially designed to carry freight. With these special planes, freight in bulk can be moved by air, though the cost is usually considerably higher than surface shipment.

The airline industry is still very young. The

first scheduled service across the Atlantic, for instance, began in 1939. Today the airlines carry millions of passengers every year on both local and long distance flights. In some areas of the world, air service is the only effective means of public transportation. The airlines are still growing rapidly and at the same time occupying an increasingly important place in the economy of many nations. They employ thousands of people to handle the passengers and freight that they carry.

Many of these people work in various technical jobs where they have little or no direct contact with the public — in aircraft maintenance or air traffic control, for example. Thousands of others, however, come into daily contact with the traveling public. They include reservations and ticket agents, ground service personnel, stewardesses and other flight personnel, and many others. In this book, we will describe the work of airline ground service personnel who deal with the public. In a subsequent volume, we will describe the work of flight attendants and other airline employees whose jobs are performed in flight.

I. Useful Words and Expressions

1. airline 航空公司; 航线
2. aircraft 飞机; 飞艇
3. transcontinental 横贯大陆的
4. transoceanic 横渡大洋的
5. propeller (飞机)螺旋桨; 推进器
6. airport 机场; 航空站
7. category 种类
8. trunk line 航空干线
9. feeder line 航空支线
10. frontier 国境; 边境
11. rugged 崎岖的; 不平的
12. terrain 地形
13. scheduled flights 定期航班
14. non-scheduled flights 不定期航班
15. timetable 时刻表
16. reservation 预定
17. jumbo 大型喷气式客机
18. charter 包机
19. route 航线
20. first class 头等舱

21. economy 经济舱
22. in-flight 机内的; 机上的
23. aisle 通道; 走廊
24. fare 机费; 车费; 航费
25. natably 著名地; 显著的
26. shuttle flights 区间航班
27. freight 货物
28. compartment 分隔间
29. recline 斜倚; 躺
30. bucket seat (飞机, 汽车上)座板可翻起的凹背单人座位
31. shipment 装运
32. bulk 货舱; 舱壁
33. maintenance 维修; 保养
34. ground service personnel 地勤服务人员
35. stewardess 女乘务员
36. subsequent 继……之后的; 随后的
37. flight attendant 乘务员

II. Proper Names

1. Paris 巴黎
2. London 伦敦

3. New York 纽约
4. Chicago 芝加哥
5. Dakota 达科他(美国一地名)此处指一种飞机
6. San Juan 圣胡安
7. Puerto Rico 波多黎各(美)
8. Binghamton 宾厄姆顿(美)
9. Mayaguez 马亚圭斯(波多黎各)
10. Canada 加拿大
11. Brazil 巴西
12. Colombia 哥伦比亚(拉美)
13. Washington 华盛顿(美)
14. Boston 波士顿(美)
15. Los Angeles 洛杉矶(美)
16. San Francisco 旧金山(美)
17. the Atlantic 大西洋

III. Discussion Questions

1. Why do some airlines still use propeller airplanes?
2. What is the difference between trunk lines and feeder lines? Are there any feeder lines

operating in your area? If so, what are they?
With what trunk lines do they connect?

3. Why has there been a rapid development of feeder lines in recent years?
4. What is the difference between scheduled and non - scheduled flights?
5. For what purpose are charters especially popular? What particular advantage do they offer to the passenger?
6. what is an extra section?
7. What is the difference between first class and economy service?
8. What is a shutter flight?
9. How was freight carried by the airlines a few years ago? How are large shipments of freight carried by the airlines nowadays?

10. What are some of the types of jobs that are offered by the airline industry? What kinds of jobs will be discussed in this book?
11. Why would you be interested in working for an airline?

IV. Vocabulary Practice

Select a suitable word or phrase from the choices given below and try to match the numbered definition. Put your choices beside the numbers.

- A. Aircraft
- B. Airline
- C. Airport
- D. Fare
- E. Flight
- F. Freight
- G. Route
- H. Timetable

67 1. A company which offers air transportation

between two or more points. It includes all the support activities, such as aircraft, airports, ticket offices, and so on, that are necessary for providing the air transportation.

C 2. The place where airplanes take off or land. It includes all the facilities that are necessary for serving airplanes, passengers, and freight.

A 3. Usually used as a technical - sounding equivalent to airplane, but in fact it refers to any type of machine that can be used for flight in the air. Thus, it includes not only airplanes but also balloons, helicopters, gliders, etc. The two most common types of commercial aircraft are propeller planes and jets. Propeller planes (props for short) have conventional internal combustion engines, the propellers themselves are revolving blades. Jet planes have jet engines which provide a propelling force by discharging heated gas from the rear of the engine. Jets are more modern